

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2873

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AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1039

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GY, NS, CU

SUBJECT: SURINAMSE LEFT-WING PARLIAMENTARIAN VISITING GUYANA
UNDER CADEC AUSPICES

1. 1. BEGINUNCLASSIFIED. SURINAMESE POET AND LEFT-WING PARLIAMEN-
TARIAN ROBIN RAVALES (AKA DOBRU) AND FOUR OTHER SURINAMESE ARTISTS
(INCLUDING ANDRE POKOSIE, DESCRIBED AS A MEMBER OF THE NDJUKA TRIBE)
COMPRISING A PRFORMING GROUP KNOWN AS THE MAROONS ARE NOW IN
GUYANA, REPORTEDLY TO SET UP A ONE-WEEK EXHIBITION OF ART WORK AND
NATIVE CULTURE. THE GROUPS ANNOUNCED ACTIVITES ARE BEING SPONSORED
BY CHRISTIAN ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN (CADEC), THE
FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF WHICH ARE IN PART DERIVED FROM THE USG
THROUGH THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION. THE ARTISTS ALSO PLAN TO TOUR
CUBA, BBARBADOS, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO, AND VENEZUELA; ARRIVING IN
JAMAICA FOR CARIFESTA 76. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. COMMENT: SINCE HIS OWN COUNTRY AND CUBA DO NOT YET HAVE DIPLOMA-
TIC TIES, RAVALES IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE PRINCIPAL GOVT CONTACT IN
SURINAM FOR CUBAN DIPLOMATS STATIONED IN GUYANA. HE IS KNOWN TO
HAVE ASSISTED SEVERAL CUBAN OFFICIALS WHO HAD TRAVELED TO SURINAM
WITHOUT AN OFFICIAL INVITATION, AND AT ONE TIME TO HAVE UNSUCCESS-
FULLY ATTEMPTED TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN A GROUP OF THESE
OFFICIALS ANDPM AARON. GIVEN RAVALES'LEADING ROLE IN THIS PROJECT,
THIS EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED BY THE DEPT OR AMEMB
PARAMARIBO WHETHER THIS CADEC ACTIVITY IS ONE OF THOSE FUNDED BY THE
INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION.

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KREBS

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